of Colour Picture Tubes was received from M/s. Andhra Pradesh Electronics Development Corporation Ltd. (APEDC). The application was registered by Secretariat for Industrial Approvals (SIA) on 11-4-1986. The proposal was not accepted by the Government of India. M/s APEDC represented against this decision in December, 1988. Meanwhile, the collaborator of M/s APEDC, namely M/s. Philips, Holland, informed the Government of India that they had withdrawn their offer of collaboration with M/s APEDC and terminated all its past arrangements for technology transfer for the manufacture of colour picture tubes. Subsequently however, M/s Philips changed their decision and offered to transfer technology for manufacture of colour picture tubes to M/s APEDC and/or M/s Videocon. The Government of Andhra Pradesh and M/s APEDC have no objection to the consideration of application of M/s Videocon for the grant of licence for the manufacture of Colour Picture Tubes in collaboration with M/s Philips. Holland provided M/s Videocon set up the plant in the State of Andhra Pradesh. M/s Videocon has confirmed the location of their plant for manufacture of Colour Picture Tubes in the State of Andhra Pradesh. However, the proposal of M/s Videocon is under consideration of the Government of India. There is no other proposal to manufacture Colour Picture Tubes pending with the Government.

The item Colour Picture Tube is de-licensed. The names of the firms which have been approved Foreign Collaboration/Capital Goods for CPTs manufacture are as follows:—

Sl. No.	*Name of the Firm*	*Date of FC approval*
1.	M/s. JCT Electronics Limited	12-3-1984
2.	M/s. Uptron Colour Picture Tubes Ltd.	2-12-1985
3.	M/s. Samtel Colour Ltd	11-8-1986
4.	M/s. J & K SIDC	26-9-1990

Invention of Fusion Machine

1987. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new fusion machine for generating power economically has been invented; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) Tokomak, a special kind of plasma device for producing fusion energy is being tried out in many laboratories. So far they have not succeeded in producing more energy than that used in the machine and therefore, this is considered still uneconomical at this stage of development. In recent times, experiments on cold fusion are being tried out in many laboratories. Yet no reproducible device has been made nor the theory behind this phenomenon is well understood. Research is being carried out in many laboratories in the world including Bhabha Atomic Research Centre.

(b) In view of the above facts, it is too early to judge if fusion energy will become economically available in the next couple of decades.

[*Translation*]

Basic Drugs Unit of I.D.P.L. in Bihar

1988. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of drug units set up by Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. in the country;

(b) whether any proposal to set up a basic drugs unit in Bihar is also pending with the Union Government for a long time;

(c) if so, whether the government propose to authorise the work of setting up of the said unit to Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd., if so the details thereof: and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited has three subsidiary units set up in the joint sector in collaboration with the concerned State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Orissa.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[*English*]

Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India

1989. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of the Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Limited has been rising for the last 3-4 months;

(b) whether some of the public sectors have been patronising products of the Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Limited;

(c) whether there is also any proposal for revival of this unit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) Although there was no improvement in production of Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Ltd. in the 1st quarter of 1991-92, a rising trend has been noticed in the month of July, 1991 in all the items of its production specially in the footwear, which is the main activity.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Government had asked the Industrial Development Bank of India to undertake a viability study of the Company based on a revival package prepared by the Company. The viability study Report submitted by the IDPI in May, 1991 is under process.

Simplification of procedure for Sanctioning Pension to Retiring Employees

1990. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the government to simplify the procedure for sanctioning pension to the retiring government employees; and

(b) the approximate time by which the pension order papers are handed over to the pensioners from the date of retirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) The existing procedure for a sanctioning pension to retiring Central Government employees is quite simple and time tested. With a view to minimising delay in sanction of pensions, instructions were issued in January, 1987 making Heads of Departments/Offices accountable for strict compliance of the Government Orders for ensuring authorisation of pension and gratuity—provisional or final—by the date of retirement on superannuation.

(b) By and large Pension payment Orders are issued by the date of retirement. During the last four years from 1-4-87 to 31-3-91 the number of complaints relating to non-issue of Pension Payment Order by the date of retirement, in respect of those who retire on superannuation, centrally received in the Deptt. of Pension & P.W. was of the order of only 133.

Issue of Letters of intent for Madhya Pradesh

1991. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Letters of Intent to set up large and medium industries sanctioned in Madhya Pradesh between January 1, 1990 and April 1, 1991; and

(b) if so, the details and proposed locations thereof?